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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 440  
By White

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Genifer and Dwight  
Strickland for their heroism.

WHEREAS, it is important that the members of this General Assembly honor those individuals willing to act decisively to help those in need in times of crisis to avert injury or death, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to have so many valiant men and women who have performed unselfishly to help others; and

WHEREAS, on December 5, 1998, Tom and Jean Parrish and grandsons Jonathan, 8 and Joshua Parrish, 5, were travelling in Maury County, when their vehicle was broadsided by another vehicle; and

WHEREAS, the point of impact was on the driver's side passenger door where Joshua had fallen asleep with his head leaning against the door. The accident caused severe head trauma to Joshua, causing him to lose consciousness; and

WHEREAS, the vehicle began to fill with smoke as the Parrishes struggled to free the unconscious Joshua from his seatbelt; and

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WHEREAS, Genifer and Dwight Strickland, Dwight's mother Nadine Strickland, and the two Strickland sons, who had witnessed the collision, stopped to offer assistance. Genifer saw young Joshua severely restricted by his seatbelt, turning blue and unable to breathe, and quickly ran to the Strickland van for scissors to cut the belt; and

WHEREAS, while Dwight Parrish used his cell phone to call 911 and the parents of Jonathan and Joshua, Genifer freed Joshua with the help of another motorist; and

WHEREAS, Genifer continued to monitor Joshua's condition as he emerged from a seizure and regained consciousness, helping to calm and comfort Jonathan; and

WHEREAS, The parents of Joshua and Jonathan, Tony and Lisa Parrish, were advised by paramedics that Genifer's quick actions probably saved Joshua's life; and

WHEREAS, Nadine Strickland, whose husband was a patient at Maury County Regional Hospital, checked daily on the progress of young Joshua, who was taken there for treatment; and

WHEREAS, Genifer and Dwight Strickland acted promptly and selflessly to extend desperately needed help during a time of crisis; and

WHEREAS, such heroic behavior and great presence of mind can only be categorized as outstanding; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Genifer and Dwight Strickland of Lawrenceburg for their timely assistance and life-saving actions on behalf of Joshua Parrish.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.